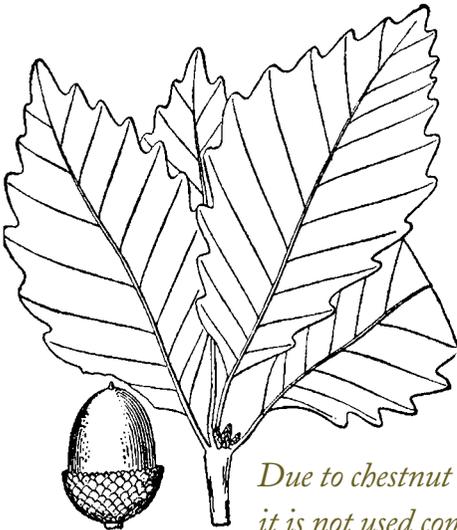




CHESTNUT OAK *Quercus prinus* L.



Chestnut oak only occurs in the southern tip of Maine. It is found on Mt. Agamenticus in the town of York and has been reported from Oxford County. In Maine, trees grow 12 inches or more in diameter and about 40 feet in height.

The gray-brown **bark** is smooth on young trees, but becomes thick and very deeply furrowed on older trees. The **leaves** are similar to those of the American chestnut. They are yellow-

Due to chestnut oak's rarity in Maine, it is not used commercially here.





They gray bark of the chestnut oak is very deeply furrowed.

green above, hairy below, narrowly elliptical with shallow rounded lobes without bristle tips. They are often widest above the middle.

Male **flowers** are yellow-green, borne on catkins and appear in May. Female flowers are reddish, borne in spikes with the leaves in mid-spring. The edible **fruit** is a large, 1½ inch long, ellipsoid acorn that matures in one season. Its cup encloses about half of the acorn. The **twigs** are hairless and orange-brown to gray. The chestnut brown buds are clustered toward the end of the twig, pointed, and quite long and narrow in shape.

The **wood** is similar in character to white oak and has similar uses. In areas where chestnut oak is more abundant, it is sold as white oak. Due to its rarity in Maine, it is not used commercially here.



MAINE REGISTER OF BIG TREES 2008
Chestnut Oak Circumference: 191" Height: 90' Crown Spread: 72' Location: Yarmouth

